

DWP Policy Group Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2019/29155

22 August 2019

Dear Glenys Harriman,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 5 August. You asked:

*Please could you let me know if there is (or is to be) any specific guidance on Discretionary Housing Payments for those who have been managed migrated onto UC, as given in The Universal Credit (Managed Migration Pilot and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2019:*

*"Discretionary hardship payments*

*64. The Secretary of State may, in such circumstances and subject to such conditions as the Secretary of State considers appropriate, make payments to notified persons who appear to be in hardship as a result of the termination of an existing benefit in accordance with these Regulations or otherwise as a result of the provisions of this Part.". "*

*If there is any guidance, or additions to the Discretionary Financial Regulations, please could you point me in the right direction.*

*Also any document which considers the additional funds to be given to Local Authorities to distribute DHPs in these circumstances.*

**DWP Response:**

I confirm that we do not hold the recorded information to respond to your request.

However, you may find the following explanation useful. We have provided this outside our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act

There has been no additional guidance or funds provided to local authorities for this purpose. This is because claimants can apply for a Discretionary Housing Payment in the usual way, with any awards at the discretion of the Local Authority.

To be helpful, you can find the Discretionary Housing Payment guidance here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/discretionary-housing-payments-guidance-manual>

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

**Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act**

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [freedom-of-information-request@dpw.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dpw.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Web: [ico.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](http://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745